

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

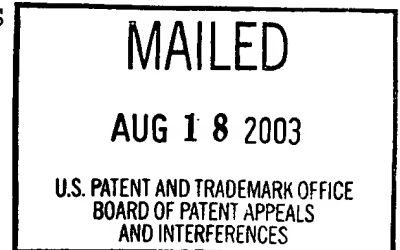
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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

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Ex parte FUMIKAZU MACHINO,  
TSUYOSHI HIGO, TOSHINOBU KATAOKA,  
RYOICHI ONOUE, TOSHIO DATE  
and TOMINORI SATO

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Application 09/180,432

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ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

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This application was received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (BPAI) on August 1, 2003. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was filed October 30, 2001 (Paper No. 21). The IDS needs to be considered by the Primary Examiner with respect to compliance with the criteria set

Application 09/180,432

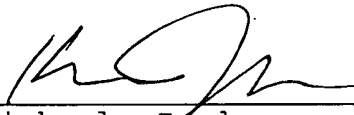
forth in 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98. A written communication notifying appellants of the Primary Examiner's decision is required.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the examiner for consideration of Paper No. 21 and for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

By:

  
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Kimberly Jordan  
Program and Resource Administrator  
(703) 308-9797

CC:

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP  
1725 K Street, N.W., Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20006

KJ/cam  
RA03-0495